

Message Text

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67

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

DRC-01 /194 W

----- 005353

R 151823Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5557

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 4062

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, CS, XK

SUBJECT: SAN JOSE PROTOCOL PUT IN EFFECT BY DECREE

1. ON NOVEMBER 14, THE GOCR ISSUED A DECREE
AUTHORIZING COLLECTION OF THE 30 PERCENT SURCHARGE ON
IMPORT DUTIES ENVISIONED IN THE SAN JOSE PROTOCOL UNTIL
SUCH TIME AS THE ASSEMBLY RATIFIES THE AGREEMENT.
FUNDS COLLECTED ARE TO BE HELD IN ESCROW IN THE CENTRAL
BANK.

2. COMMENT: THE PROTOCOL, IN FORCE SINCE 1968, WAS
TO EXPIRE NOVEMBER 8, 1973, HOWEVER, COSTA RICA,
GUATEMALA, EL SALVADOR AND NICARAGUA ON OCTOBER
15 AGREED TO EXTEND IT FOR AN ADDITIONAL FIVE YEARS (WITH A
PENALTY CLAUSE APPLYING TO ANY SIGNATORY NOT RATIFYING).

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3. RATIFICATION WAS EXPECTED TO TAKE PLACE WITHOUT

DIFFICULTY, HOWEVER, THE EXTENSION BILL GOT LOST IN ASSEMBLY POLITICS. WHILE, IT IS SCHEDULED FOR THE LAST OF THREE REQUIRED "DEBATES" ON TODAY'S ASSEMBLY CALENDAR, FINAL APPROVAL SEEMS LIKELY TO BE POSTPONED AT LEAST FOR A FEW DAYS TO ALLOW CONSIDERATION OF THE 1974 BUDGET BILL, WHICH MUST BE APPROVED BY NOVEMBER 30.

4. THE PROTOCOL IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT TO THE GOCR SINCE IT IS EXPECTED TO PRODUCE SOME 60 MILLION COLONES IN REVENUE NEXT YEAR. IT ALSO PROVIDES ADDITIONAL PROTECTION TO LOCAL INDUSTRY, AND IN EFFECT TAXES IMPORTS FROM THIRD COUNTRIES RATHER THAN CACM TRADE. CUSTOMS HOUSES WHICH WERE "CLOSED FOR INVENTORY" ON NOVEMBER 9 IN ORDER TO PREVENT WINDFALLS ACCRUING TO IMPORTERS PENDING RATIFICATION, HAVE REOPENED.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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